

From: Jeremy Walker
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:14am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear sirs,

Unfortunately I'm not blessed with the time to fully analyze the court proceedings involving the Microsoft Settlement. That's not my job, it's yours and I have to place my trust in you, that you are doing your job in the best interest of the population of the United States as a whole. The research that I have had time to make, as well as information I have received from other sources I trust point me to believe that, in this case, my trust has been misplaced

The danger of Microsoft's monopolies, in my opinion, do not stem from any individuals personal monetary gain. It stems from the destructive impact that Microsofts anti competitive practice has on the advancement of computer science as a whole. Microsoft has done some great things and in many ways has advanced the usability of computing, but it's practices have inhibited and often destroyed the advances of many. Microsoft may be a large "one" that contributes much but the advances and knowledge Microsoft has actively destroyed in the open source, academic and competitive consumer markets are incalculable. You can not calculate the future impact of what has been quashed.

Due to the existing reality of Microsofts practices damaging research in competitive computer solutions, impacting both the financial and scientific advancement of the United States as a whole I must complain that the restrictions/practices proposed in the Microsoft Settlement are in no manner sufficient to the task set before them. The provisions for enforcement of the flimsy restrictions to be placed on Microsoft are as inadequate as the restrictions themselves..

In my mind the goal of this settlement is not to harm Microsoft, but to protect the United States and the field of Computer Science from the damage Microsoft inflicts by attempting to further itself at the cost of others. "United We Stand" is our creed and yet we are letting the one defy the will of the many. I encourage you to think of the United States as a whole and to act in its best interest for the future and not the now. A single strong company is an attractive and palpable entity but we must be forward thinking as to how, we the people, are best served for now and the future.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Walker